FRUITY FUSION

Discover the science behind your favorite wines.
See page 7

SNOW SPREE

FebFest draws chocoholics, snow sculptors and more.
See page 8

WE'RE NO. 1

Men's hockey is the number one team in the NESCAC
See page 14

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THE SPECTATOR

Thursday, February 17, 2011

Volume LI Number 17

PHOTOS BY FIONA HOFFMAN-HARLAND '13

Daniel Savage '12 and Chip Sinton '13 addressed their peers on socially-significant topics of their choosing. Speeches may be informative or persuasive in nature.

2011 Public Speaking Contest

Orators turn talking points into compelling rhetoric

by Kate Moore '12
News Editor

Anyone interested in the debauchery of professional athletes, the human obsession with time or the impact of modern technology on today's generation will be eager to learn the results of the preliminary rounds of the 2011 Public Speaking Competition. Twenty-seven Hamilton students competed earlier this week to inform and persuade their peers about various socially-significant issues. The finalists will be notified of their standing on or before Friday, Feb. 18.

"By the final round on March 5, audiences are hearing the best of the best," said Professor Cheryl Casey, visiting assistant professor of Communications.

Students may compete for three public speaking prizes. The Warren Wright Prize is open to all students who have taken, or are currently enrolled in, the Rhetorical Act public speaking course. This speech must be informative, and only one winner will receive the $5,600 prize. The McKinney Prize is open to all students and must be persuasive. One winner from each class will receive the award, with $550 for each underclassman and $1,100 for the senior winner. The Clarke Prize is open to all seniors and includes an essay as well as a speech. This year's topic requires participants to explore the intersection of sports, ethics and accountability in light of recent ethically questionable actions of high profile athletes. One winner will receive $1,500.

"When participants are successful in their efforts, audiences are persuaded, informed and entertained," said Casey.

During the preliminary rounds on Feb. 12 and 14, speeches were limited to three to five minutes. Students of various skill and experience levels signed up to share their thoughts and opinions with an audience of peers and faculty.

> **"As a school that prides itself on skillfully teaching students how to communicate in both the written and oral form, it is important to provide a forum to discuss our ideas and persuade others."**

"I signed up for the public speaking competition because I competed in speech and debate all throughout high school," said Jessica Moulite '14. "My topic was based on technology and how it's affecting our generation, especially in regards to how we communicate with one another."

"This year my speech was entitled 'The Moment Itself' and I talked about how our obsession with time controls us. Time is thought of as another commodity and as a result, we are obsessed with saving it," said Rachel Pohl '11, "I chose my topic because I think we forget to take the time, especially as students, to enjoy ourselves and spend as much time as possible with the people we care about."

"I signed up for the competition to apply some of my lessons from Political Oratory, and because I simply enjoy speaking, having done speech and debate in high school," said Max Schnidman '14. "I wrote a speech in favor of school vouchers, and I feel my speech was effective at making a case for them."

Participants also have access to a coach, Co-Director of the Oral Communication Center James Helmer. Thus, competitors are able to receive assistance when developing topic ideas, important feedback after the preliminary round, and explanation of evaluation criteria. Standing at the podium in the Chapel can be a daunting task, but the guidance of a coach can help students with different levels of public speaking experience be more comfortable when presenting their information or argument.

"I participated in the public speaking competition because it is a great opportunity to work on persuasive writing and to practice speaking in front of a crowd, working up those public

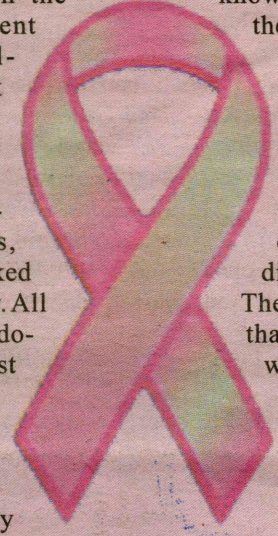
*see **Public Speaking**, page 2*

Sororities join forces for Pink and White fundraiser

by Jordyn Taylor '12
News Contributor

Last week, six Hamilton sororities teamed up for Pink and White: a week-long mission to raise funds and awareness for breast cancer research.

At tables in the Beinecke Student Activities Village, the Pink and White team sold a variety of items including T-shirts, restaurant gift cards, raffle tickets, baked goods and candy. All proceeds were donated to the Breast Cancer Alliance. Pink and White organizer Amy Goldstein '11 said the charity "is the fourth largest non-profit that provides funding directly to breast cancer research by awarding grants to high-impact breast cancer research centers."



On Saturday night, the campus celebrated its charitable achievements with a dance party in the Annex. Attendees were unified by a festive pink and white dress code.

Kristin Schwam '13 says, "I think cancer is something that affects everyone, whether they have it, or whether they know someone close to them that has it."

The National Cancer Institute reports that in 2010, 209,060 people were newly diagnosed with breast cancer and 40,230 died as a result of it. The Institute also says that 12.15 percent of women born today will be diagnosed with breast cancer at some point in their lives.

The week-long event ultimately raised just over $800 and was successful in spreading breast cancer awareness. Schwam says that "for all of the sororities to join together for this philanthropic cause is a very powerful statement."

Wallace examines role of hospitality in blurring boundaries

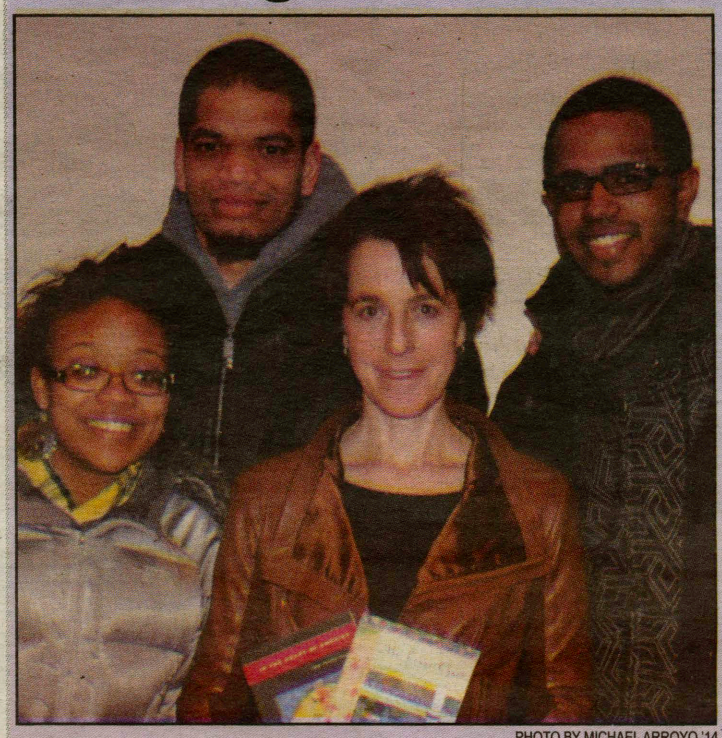


PHOTO BY MICHAEL ARROYO '14

Renowned playwright Naomi Wallace was invited to campus for the Tolles Lecture Series. Following a lecture, Wallace held a book signing. Read the article on page 3.

Maoist activist from West Virginia coal mining community finds outlet in writing

by Michael Koester '13
News Writer

Bombing the home of a Maoist sympathizer might not have been unusual during the Chinese Civil War, but it was a reality for a woman living in a West Virginia during the 1970s.

Now an accomplished author and assistant professor of English at Borough of Manhattan Community College, Page Delano shared her experiences as a Maoist activist in a West Virginian coal community in a lecture on Wednesday hosted by the Comparative Literature Department.

After participating in student protests at Sarah Lawrence University, Delano left college in the late 1960s inspired to pursue an "independent study" of the American working classes. Identifying as a communist, Delano's activism in New York City brought her into contact with a left-wing group of American Maoists. Delano became a party member, and volunteered to help organize workers. As per party requirements, she married, and both her and her husband, an anti-war Vietnam veteran, worked in a New York City post office, helping to organize workers' strikes.

Eventually the party relocated the Delanos to Danville, a coal-mining town in West Virginia.

"Workers continued to view the Delanos with suspicion, resulting the unsolved bombing of their home."

Here, the Delanos worked in the coalmines and raised a family while organizing fellow workers. Her and her husband's activism included organizing May Day Labor events, reading the Peking Reviews (documents that explained perspectives of the Chinese Communist Party's leadership in China), selling and writing for a progressive newspaper for coal workers and organizing strikes and a women's auxiliary. The Delanos never denied their identity as Communists; most members of the community knew Delano as a "red". Delano was not discouraged by being an obvious outsider in the coal-mining community, quoting Martin Luther King as saying, "Where there is injustice, there are no outsiders."

Still, Delano and her family endured many hardships during their sojourn in West Virginia. It was difficult to raise a family and organize the coal miners' labor movement. Delano suffered from post-partum depression after the birth of her second child and experienced a friend dying in harsh labor conditions. Craving intellectual pursuits outside of learning about party ideology, Delano found an outlet for her emotions in writing. Workers continued to view the Delanos with suspicion, resulting in the unsolved bombing of their home that did not result in any fatalities. When Delano's firstborn daughter was ready for kindergarten, the family moved out of Danville.

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"Being from an inactive coal mining town, I was not aware people like Delano's participated like this as an outsider," said Rachel Tiche '13.

Looking back on her experiences with Maoism in America, Delano acknowledges it was "stupid" to have been a Maoist, but she looks back on her activism with pride. "The continuation of my work," Delano says, "is the people who are trying to stop coal mining all together [in West Virginia]."

Students vie for prestigious public speaking awards

from ***Public Speaking,*** *page 1*

speaking nerves, and then overcoming them. Public speaking is simply a rush for me," said Michael Bethoney '11. "And the potential for that cash-prize wasn't a bad incentive either."

"The most important feature of this event is that it calls for participants to showcase not simply presentation skills, per se, but an understanding of all of the elements that go into structuring an effective speech," said Casey. "Participants must understand their audience, establish credibility, and provide well-organized, supported arguments--all while implementing appropriate language and engaging delivery techniques."

"I thought that it would be a great opportunity to put my public speaking skills to the test in an actual competition setting...where I would be positively criticized and possibly more harshly judged," said Christopher Delacruz '13.

"As a school that prides itself on skillfully teaching students how to communicate in both the written and oral form, it is important to provide a forum to discuss our ideas and persuade others. The public speaking competition is a wonderful and unique opportunity to do so," said Pohl.

The finalists will deliver their speeches on March 5 from 1-5 p.m. in the Chapel. Winners will receive their prizes at the Class and Charter Day ceremony in May.

AMHERST BATES BOWDOIN COLBY CONNECTICUT COLLEGE MIDDLEBURY TRINITY TUFTS WESLEYAN WILLIAMS

NESCAC NEWS

by Joshua Yates '14
News Writer

Connecticut College

What do you get when you mix 80's techno music, hidden bunkers and hyper-energetic college students? Well the Student Activities Programming Assistant (SAPA) Staff at Connecticut College dared to find out the answer. What they got was about 150 students participating in a three hour laser tag match that took place on the main quad of campus.

Thanks to the planning of Kim Marker '13 and Jeannette Williams, assistant director of student engagement and leadership on campus, Party Vision, based in Nashua, NH, helped provide the equipment for what Marker calls "SAPA's most successful event... this year," according to the *College Voice*. The *Voice* also reports that students were split up into teams of four but after hearing only a few safety tips, were left with nothing but the cover of darkness harrowing overhead and their lasers in hand.

Aside from some malfunctioning equipment and waiting in long lines to play, the event was generally well received on campus by many. When asked by the *Voice* if there would be another laser tag night in the future, Marker said, "I really hope so; I would love to make it a yearly thing." As for now, some are trying to adjust to normal everyday life as they step back into reality and out of a temporary laser fantasy.

Colby College

Jestina Mukoko and Chiwoniso Maraire, both described as "the two most famous women in Zimbabwe" by Tendai Mutunhire '13, graced the Colby community with their important visit. The event they attended was called "Zimbabwe in Maine," which was featured in the Winter 2011 edition of *Colby Magazine*, and celebrated Colby's Zimbabwean community. According to the *Magazine*, "Colby has enrolled 18 students from Zimbabwe since 2000, and for most of the past decade the country was either the fifth or sixth best-represented foreign country in Colby's student body."

Speaking to a standing room only crowd, Zimbabwean students shared their experiences of living in Zimbabwe, a country that many learned has had a conflicted and poverty stricken history. There was also a lovely African buffet, and Maraire performed for the audience. She has been described as an "Afro-Soul Diva" and "one of Zimbabwe's most highly respected musicians." "It's like Oprah," Mutunhire told *Colby Magazine*. "You just say 'Chiwoniso' and everybody knows." Mukoko, national director of the Zimbabwe Peace Project and a recent international symbol of courage in Zimbabwe's human rights struggle, also addressed the crowd. While Zimbabwe and Maine couldn't be more different from each other, the openness and dedication of the Colby community helped bridge that gap through this festival.

Williams College

What would it be like going to college with your older or younger sibling? Staff Writer Michelle Ryang of the *Williams Record* sought out the answer and interviewed three sibling pairs present on campus: Jake Stark '14 and Abby Stark '11, Anna Mars '13 and Tim Mars '11 and Brian Thomas '12 and Charlene Thomas '11.

"It's nice to have a family member on campus who is always there to help out with the car or groceries, and to understand what I'm talking about when I complain about the walk to Mission dining hall or all of my homework," Abby tells the *Record*.

Anna Mars hated being called "Tim's little sister" by her teachers and peers in high school and the idea of going to Williams was not even close to a reality. She told the *Record* she was "initially turned off" by Williams, but soon realized how nice it was to "[have] someone to show [her] the ropes and someone [she] could always trust if [she] ever needed anything."

The Thomas siblings were never really close growing up and when they both started attending Williams, many assumed they did everything together. "Sometimes the expectations people place on you as siblings is unreasonable; we're still two different people," according to Brian. However, Brain did admit that they have become much closer since attending Williams together and he tells the *Record*, "I owe Williams for rebuilding our relationship."

Wallace encourages writers to 'educate their imaginations'

by Kate Moore '12
News Editor

As a renowned playwright, Naomi Wallace believes one of the best ways to enjoy theater is while smoking, talking and eating. Given that her lecture on "Hospitality, Resistance and New Writing for American Theater" was held in the Chapel, Wallace hoped that distributing Twizzlers to the audience would suffice.

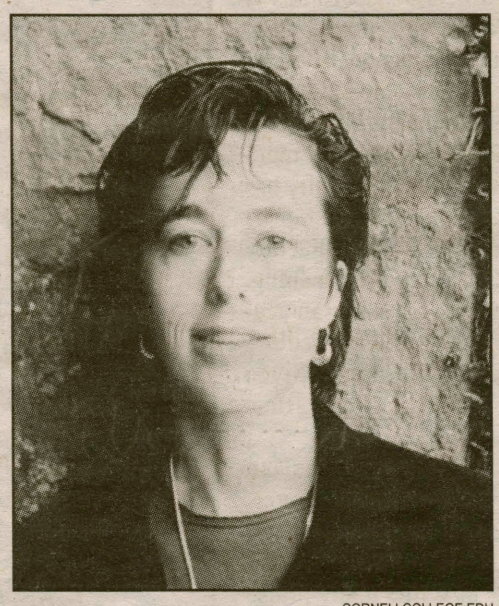
Wallace's play *Slaughter City* was performed as a mainstage production last fall, and she was invited to campus by the Winton Tolles Lecture Series. Established in 1991, the series brings distinguished writers in the fields of literature, journalism and theater to lecture and meet with students.

Though unwilling to go so far as to break the ban on smoking in campus buildings, Wallace did advocate in her lecture for pushing personal and social boundaries in an effort to add depth to one's writing. She explored the theme of hospitality in classic literature, such as Shakespeare, and argued that safe and shallow theater today avoids linking the "I" and the "other."

"However mainstream American theater is, it is still primarily a white, middle class endeavor," said Wallace.

While attempting to portray a race or gender that is not the author's own is a risk that can be undertaken too carelessly, Wallace believes it is a risk that must be taken in exchange for full depth of a character or scene. She pointed to the Latin roots of the word "hospitality," which means "to entertain." Thus, the purpose of theater is to capture the imagination of one's audience by allowing them to connect the personal experience of the self with that of an unknown "other." In the process, Wallace suspects that the viewer will realize she already knew and was always connected to the "other."

"The stranger at the door is there so that we may realize the stranger is our self," said Wallace.



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Hamilton students performed Wallace's play *Slaughter City* this fall for the mainstage production. Carole Bellini-Sharp, professor of theatre, considers Wallace's work "among the brave and the beautiful."

In order to illustrate her point, Wallace described her own experiences growing up comfortably middle class in Prospect, KY. She was well acquainted with her working class neighbors and developed two significant relationships that inspired her later in life.

As mischievous young girls, Wallace and her friend Angela were an equal pair, each with her own hopes and dreams for the future. However, while Wallace went off to college to pursue a career as a writer, Angela's dreams of becoming a flight attendant were denied due to her race. Today, Wallace is a successful poet and playwright; Angela lives under an overpass.

Another important relationship from Wallace's past was with the father of an ex-boyfriend. This man had lost one and a half lungs after being poisoned by canned food from the U.S. government while serving in the Korean War; shortly before his death, he lamented to Wallace: "How can it be that I worked so hard all my life and still have nothing?" From her interactions with her less-fortunate neighbors, Wallace concluded that there was a serious problem with an economic system "designed to have a majority struggling and a minority living in the lap of luxury."

Writing proved to be an effective outlet for Wallace's frustration. She encourages other playwrites and poets to investigate their realities.

"We are responsible for the education of our imagination," said Wallace.

Writers must always be curious, particularly in regard to usages of language. She highlights the example of white phosphorus, also known as "shake 'n bake." This chemical is used in war to literally burn one's opponents or targets alive. The colloquial nickname, which refers to a style of cooking chicken, belies the very real and very negative nature of the chemical's implementation in our world. Wallace capitalizes on moral ambiguities such as these to shed light on issues that are otherwise ignored.

"How do we open up these contradictions so that they may inspire us, rather than cripple us?" said Wallace. "We should aspire to be interested writers."

Crossing boundaries is an ideal way to achieve this. In regard to hospitality, if we invite a stranger to cross the threshold from the public to the private and enter our home, we begin to learn more about ourselves. As we come to know the experiences of others, we better understand our own. According to Wallace, "through imagining empathy we revive our own humanity."

Student Assembly Update

by Katie Hee '14
News Contributor

Rising tuition

As Hamilton's tuition has risen, many students have begun to ask questions. Student Assembly spoke to the Vice President for Administration and Finance Karen Leach about these concerns. When compared to 25 similar liberal arts schools, the cost of Hamilton's tuition is just below average.

Nearly half of Hamilton's budget is reserved for labor and if tuition were lowered it would lead to the layoff of some employees. The number of Hamilton employees is a critical component of the small class size that is an important quality of this college. In the past year, health insurance costs for employees increased 17 percent and any increases to the tuition were to cover this and to give small raises. Karen Leach can be reached at kleach@hamilton.edu if anyone has any questions, concerns or ideas.

Resolution against sexual assault

On average, one out of four women are sexual assaulted during their academic career and Student Assembly has passed a resolution condemning sexual assault at Hamilton. A number of groups on campus who have expressed their anxiety about this met with a Student Assembly representative. Each group has begun to work toward a particular initiative to fight sexual assault on campus. The athletic department in particular is beginning a program called HABIT to raise awareness among Hamilton athletes.

Science News

Physicist addresses requirements for collective motion

by Allison Eck '12
Managing Editor

"A travelling school of fish knows no leader," said M. Cristina Marchetti, professor of physics at Syracuse University.

Her lecture on Tuesday, "Self-Organization and Mechanics of Active Matter," addressed the collective behavior of soft materials deemed "active matter," self-propelled (driven by their own chemical energy) entities that exhibit collective motion on a large scale. Marchetti proceeded to discuss models by which self-propelled particles orchestrate collective motion.

"Active matter" encompasses more than just the behavior of migrating geese and guppies; it refers to soft materials that consume energy and collectively generate motion or mechanical stresses. These could be as small as E. coli bacteria or cytoskeletons of living cells. Regardless of size, flocks of this kind of material demonstrate two equal and opposite behaviors: a desire to stay close to the flock and a desire to avoid collisions within the flock. To do that, members of the flock must attempt to match their velocity with nearby flockmates. This is what Marchetti labeled the alignment rule, or the Vicsek model.

The factors of fluid stability and density contribute to a flock's ability to form a polar (moving) state. "This interplay of flow and orientation is what makes the physics very rich," said Marchetti.

"'Active matter' encompasses more than just the behavior of migrating geese and guppies; it refers to soft materials that consume energy and collectively generate motion or mechanical stressors."

However, the Vicsek model applies only to point particles—that is, parts of an active matter sample only look at their neighbors to orient themselves if we consider them limited to an infinitely small point in space. The "hard rod" is something that is not a point particle — it has a volume. In high density, these materials experience head-tail symmetry, or the "nematic" phase, as opposed to the polar phase. The difference is that while they have a long-range directional order, numerous collisions randomize the motion and the net velocity is zero.

Marchetti showed students and faculty a video that demonstrated this phenomenon — in it, bacteria clumped together and traveled in packs, until eventually, they moved into the nematic phase. "They get jammed up," she said.

The next time you watch *Finding Nemo*, watch to see if digital animation techniques are accurate in portraying these behaviors. If they are, you'll see swarms of fish react to predators as one instead of as many.

Filling Urgo's Shoes

It has been almost one year since the Hamilton community learned Dean of Faculty Joe Urgo and his ubiquitous Vespa scooter would be departing. When Urgo moved on to become President of St. Mary's College of Maryland, he left a void that has been felt by administrators, faculty and students. Urgo's successor has big shoes to fill, which attests to the important role a Dean of Faculty can and should have at Hamilton. In the coming weeks the College will hire a new Dean, and while the job description may not specifically mention a direct relationship with students, the newest member of the Hamilton community has the potential to have a significant influence on our entire college experience.

According to the Human Resources job description for the Hamilton Dean of Faculty position, "The College seeks an energetic leader, with a distinguished record of teaching, service and scholarship sufficient to be appointed as a full professor with tenure in an academic department at Hamilton College." In addition to overseeing faculty, the curriculum and budgets, the Dean is also involved in numerous committees and organizations. Given the scope of the Dean of Faculty's responsibilities, many of his or her decisions will affect the academic and social lives of students.

The ideal candidate should have experience at a small liberal arts college and understand the type of professor with whom students connect. He or she should strive to promote inter- and intra-departmental unity as well as faculty-student relationships. The Dean of Faculty should also serve as an effective vehicle for positive and negative student feedback regarding professors, and he or she should represent our views when issues arise. While many praise Urgo's legacy as an administrative diplomat, there are those who claim he did not act according to student sentiment. Ideally, the new Dean would listen to what qualities students look for, or avoid, in current faculty and do his or her best to represent those interests.

There has also been debate regarding Hamilton's liberal arts curriculum. Whether the issue at hand is cultural or intellectual diversity, quantitative literacy requirements or writing intensive courses, the Dean should actively seek student opinion. Urgo's practical legacy at Hamilton ranges from updating the faculty handbook to developing the new Strategic Plan and diversity initiatives, and his personal legacy as a beloved and approachable character reflects his success as Dean of Faculty.

Each administrator leaves a mark on the campus, and a dean's professional and personal legacies are a good measure of effectiveness. A good Dean of Faculty candidate will have an easily discernible legacy at his or her previous institute. He or she will have changed his or her former campus in some way and will be prepared to apply new ideas and perspectives at Hamilton. The relationship between Hamilton students and the administration is not particularly strong, but a new Dean of Faculty could change this. The new Dean should have a strong campus presence that can be observed by all, even if it is not in the form of a Vespa. With the new Dean of Faculty taking over next year, current sophomores and juniors will still remember the Urgo era as a time when there was a campus administrator engaged with students on a daily basis. The College owes it to future students to ensure such a presence on campus going forward.

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Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college and Hamilton community members.

Nevertheless, *The Spectator* has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. The Spectator reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

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Ice castles, bulldozers and parking lots

by Jeff Escalante '11
Opinion Contributor

It was time to go. I went down to the Ferguson parking lot, and after about 10 minutes of cleaning the snow and ice off my car, I started it up, put it in reverse and went absolutely nowhere. The wheels spun in vain and the car did not move so much as an inch. I sighed in disbelief, getting out to survey the damage. Underneath my back wheels lay small ditches, each one the exact size of a wheel and made of pure ice. An upward ice slope went on for a couple feet behind the ditches. About two feet of snow surrounded the rest of my car, and a thick sheet of ice covered my car. I realized then that I was not going to get anywhere, probably not until spring came and the snow and ice melted. I sighed again and went back inside.

Wednesday, Feb. 9, I received a call from Campus Safety letting me know that they would be clearing the snow and that I should move my car out of the lot. I let them know that, unfortunately, my car was not going anywhere, as much as I would have loved to move it. They said that they had a shovel and some sand, and that I should go down and try again. Once I was free, I hurried back to the parking lot, hoping that my car had not been bulldozed or towed, and that the shovel and sand were still there. I found my car sitting inside of a solitary three-foot (at least) snow and ice castle, since Campus Safety had cleared all the snow in spots around it. Luckily, the shovel and sand were there, along with a couple of Physical Plant workers in bulldozers trying to clear out the remaining snow. I grabbed the shovel and tried to get some of the area behind my back tires cleared, but to no avail: the ice was not even cracking a bit and I'm pretty sure that the shovel would have broken first if I had kept trying. I shoveled some sand under the tires and tried pulling out again, but the tires just spun and spun.

Stumped, I meekly approached one of the bulldozers. Once the man inside stopped to open the door, I let him know that my car was totally stuck and I had no idea what to do. He and the man in the other bulldozer drove over and parked next to my car. I started getting nervous (they were really gigantic bulldozers), but both men got out and started to push the front of my car, telling me to put it in reverse and accelerate as much as I could. We rocked the car back and forth for a few minutes; finally, it shot out of the ice castle in which it had been trapped. Feeling a newfound appreciation for having a car that has the ability to move, I thanked them profusely and parked in a newly cleared spot nearby.

As much as this seems like a silly story about my life, it is actually an example of how badly the snow needs to be cleared from parking lots. There have been many student complaints over the fact that we were mandated to move our cars for a day, but, when it comes down to it, I think that the snow clearing is absolutely necessary. The snow had been building up for weeks and it was practically impossible to see any blacktop in any of the parking spots on campus. I certainly was not the only one whose car had been stuck, and I witnessed friends missing important commitments because they were unable to get their cars out.

Not only was the snow clearing immensely helpful, but dealing with Campus Safety and the Physical Plant, in this case, was also a pleasure. I was late moving my car out and they reminded me kindly with a phone call. My car was not towed, I did not receive any tickets and when I arrived to try to move my car, the Physical Plant workers went out of their way to help me. So for anyone who responded begrudgingly to the requests to move out, next time, just be glad that compliance means your car will not end up in an impenetrable ice castle like mine.

PHOTO BY KATE TUMMARELLO '11

FebFest: A warm tradition in cold February

by Elizabeth Scholz '13
Opinion Contributor

Most people would agree that February seems like an extremely long month, even though it is only 28 days. We have midterms, and more importantly, it is really cold and snowy. It has one semi-important holiday, Valentine's Day, but it is safe to say that some people don't even look forward to Feb 14. So, as far as months go, February is nothing special. Luckily, members of the Hamilton community do something to make the month a little more bearable. FebFest is a winter carnival that runs for a week in February. This year it is from Feb. 12-19.

Although this year's FebFest lacks the concert that many people look forward to and remember, the week has on campus events that span from a chocolate tasting, to beer and wine tasting, to a scavenger hunt, to hockey games, to basketball games, to a snow statue competition. Various groups sponsor events during FebFest that involve the surrounding community.

One new event on this year's FebFest lineup was the figure-skating show, followed by an open-skate session with free skate rentals, sponsored by the Class of 2013. For example, on Feb. 12 students could show participating vendors at Sangertown Square Mall their hill card and receive a discount.

While some participation requires buying a $5 button, a majority of the events are open to the entire Hamilton community, free of charge. Some of the only exceptions that are only open to part of the campus are events that include alcohol. The chocolate tasting on Valentine's Day was a great way for singles and couples alike to celebrate the holiday. The fireworks at Royce Baseball field will brighten up the cold winter evening this Friday. Some other highlights of FebFest is the Mr. Hamilton competition benefiting One Heart with Africa and ELS's infamous Rocky Horror party. The week, packed full of events, gives the Hamilton community a chance to experience new things, like having a late night breakfast at Commons Dining Hall or ice skating at Sage Rink, meet new people and have a little fun. FebFest is a fantastic celebration of the winter spirit.

Although some might see it as a waste of the school's money and recourses, it adds some much needed pizzazz to the cold month of February. FebFest is a wonderful way to celebrate the winter season and it is a great Hamilton tradition that should be continued for many years to come.

Thumbs Up

And on the third day of the Great Carnegie Blackout, Lauren Zoltick said, "Let there be light!" and there was a beautiful, diesel-fueled generator light.

Rocky Horror party: Before you make out with that girl in heels and fishnets, make sure she doesn't have a bulge.

Come to the Chili Cook-Off for the best, hottest meat on campus. In other news, Dave Eng will be there.

Beer tasting: Is it cool if I bring my own funnel?

Thumbs Down

BANFF film festival: Wanna watch an emaciated human being try to claw their way out of an unforeseen hole? Isn't that the theme of pledging?

Pink and White Party DJs: Here's a helpful hint, if you don't want a bunch of drunk people yelling at you don't cut off Cee-Lo's "F*ck You" mid-chorus.

Valentine's Day at the Mail Center: I get it, you to a package. There's no need to burst out in "Mail Time" a la Blue's Clues.

The Continental makes an adorable baby look like Hitler (pg 19). Rude.

Who Cares?

The Continental: a six year old with a crayon could've made this magazine look more readable. I suggest thumbing through "Green Eggs and Ham" before the next issue.

"Hillel: Sex in the Jewish World" summary:" Size can be overlooked if he has a medical degree.

FebFest figure skating exhibition held at the same time as Trivia Night. What a heart wrenching decision.

The thumbs up/thumbs down writers have real life plans for next year. Be afraid. Be very afraid.

by Danielle Mortorano '12, Greg Jordan '11 and Lesley Ryder '11

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are purely of a satirical nature, and are not representative of the views of *The Spectator* editorial board.

FACE OFF: Should work-study students get preference for on-campus jobs?

No, jobs should be awarded based on merit

by Rachel Lieb '13
and Keith MacArtney '13
Opinion Editors

The implementation of a need-blind admissions policy means that Hamilton College privileges merit over the ability to pay. Such a policy should carry over to opportunities available to Hamilton students during their time on the Hill, including on-campus jobs.

Due to the need-blind admissions policy, it makes sense that the job-seeking population on campus would increase. However, with an increased presence of job-seeking students, there is a possibility that there will be an insufficient number of jobs on campus for other students. This problem will be accentuated should work-study students receive preferential treatment in hiring. Considering the massive amount of money that our generous alumni network gives to finance the need-blind initiative, the work-study program may be deemed unnecessary for students whose work-study jobs are solely to finance non-tuition expenses. Just as students are admitted to Hamilton without regard for their financial status, students should be hired for on-campus jobs based on merit rather than financial aid packages.

Hamilton's new need-blind status should carry over into the on-campus job selection process. Students should be chosen for jobs based on merit. The new application process, involving a formal resume and cover letter, is meant to benefit all students without privileging one group over another. If students want to present their best possible application, the Career Center is a constant resource.

It seems as though many work-study students use the money that they earn from their on-campus jobs to finance personal expenditures rather than putting the money towards tuition and room and board, among other typical school-related costs. While this is a valid use of the money, the same applies to any Hamilton student, even if their school expenses are accounted for. Despite popular belief that students who pay full tuition are completely financed by their parents, some Hamilton parents are unwilling to put forth the extra money for external costs. These students have just as much right to earn money on campus as do students who are officially sanctioned for the work-study program.

Perhaps the best solution to the question of giving preference to work-study students for on-campus jobs is to create more student jobs. Many of the jobs on campus can just as easily be filled by students instead of outside employees. One area that can possibly consider hiring more student workers is the Bon Appetit catering service. Another possibility for student jobs is within the bookstore. While these are just a couple of areas that students could be employed, there are many other possibilities for student jobs that are less visible to the campus community that remain untapped.

Withholding preferential treatment to work-study students has its benefits for all Hamilton students. The on-campus job search prepares students for the real world job market. Finding a job after graduation, especially in the economy, is not easy. Students should learn to work hard on their resumes and cover letters now, in a less cutthroat environment, so that they are prepared for life after college. Nobody gets preferential treatment or a designated "need-blind" status after college, so the same should be true here. Hamilton should try its best to prepare us in every way to be ready for the disappointments and difficulties that face us after college.

Yes, the job search is a layer cake of confusion

by Scott Milne '14
Opinion Contributor

I came to Hamilton as a work-study eligible first-year in the Fall and did not get a job until after winter break. Was this for lack of trying? Nay, unless you think crafting over a dozen cover letters and resumes demonstrates a deficiency of effort. But how was this possible, since Hamilton tells us that "priority hiring [is] given to incoming freshman that are federal work-study eligible?" I have no way of objectively disproving this; I am sure in some twisted way it is true, or Hamilton would not brazenly claim this on their website. But my months of frustration tell a different story.

The first disappointment was realizing that Hamilton was not going to actively help me get a job; on the contrary, I was going to have to jump over hurdles to get what I was promised in my financial aid letter. Coming to Hamilton, I figured that getting a job would be pretty easy. After all, I had first priority for hiring out of the entire student body. Other information that I had read supported my thinking. Phrases on the website and in my award letter such as, "if a student decides not to work [...]" and, "Your campus employment offer is for $*,***" led me to believe that if I wanted to work, I would work and make the money that was offered. To be fair, the website also says that work-study students are not guaranteed a job, buried in the bottom half of the page, suggesting that a job is anything but mine if I wanted it.

Freshmen orientation did nothing to dispel my fantasy. First years were forced to sit through long assemblies discussing our summer reading and common sense fire safety but were given no information about campus jobs. Orientation ended, school started, but Hamilton still maintained its silence about jobs. I had to contact the Financial Aid office to get any information. Only then did I learn of the existence of HamNET and that I would have to complete individual, professional applications for each job, even though I had never written a cover letter or resume in my life. I made an appointment with the Career Center to learn how to craft a quality job application, and they were tremendously helpful to their credit. I quickly applied to a handful of jobs. I received zero replies from employers regarding those applications. Deadlines passed, but the silence remained. I grew frustrated as I saw upperclassmen "working" at jobs where they went on Facebook or did their homework. After another half dozen applications, I was eventually hired as a Jitney driver and a Tech Crew member in January. I am thankful for my jobs and love that I'm finally making money. I've missed out on half of the money Hamilton predicted I'd make this year as work-study. It still confounds me why I went jobless for a semester when I was supposedly a hiring priority and actively sought jobs.

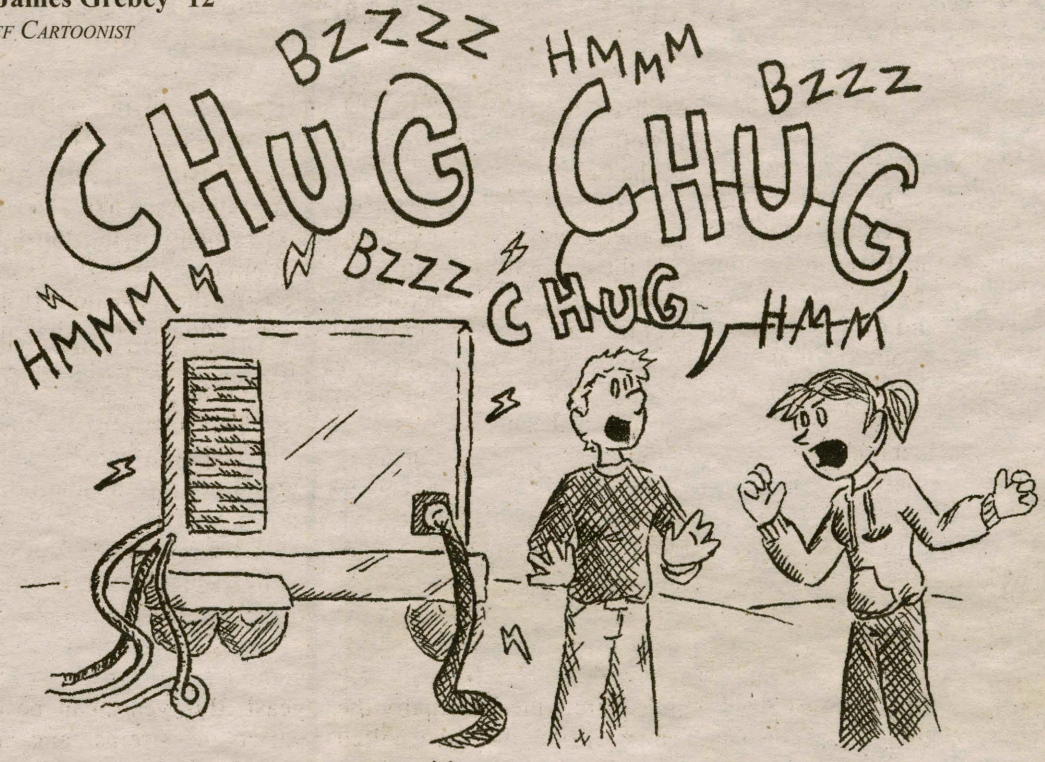
Hamilton can learn from its peers. Bowdoin has a program called the First-Year Job Placement Program (FYJPP). Via FYJPP, participating first-years are assigned an entry-level, low-skill campus job during the summer. Bowdoin's simple system accomplishes the goal of work-study: putting willing and needy students to work. Other schools hold job fairs during Orientation. Hamilton would benefit from injecting more common sense into its approach. Getting a job as a first-year is a huge benefit for that student; not only does the worker make money but he builds a foundation for future employment. But Hamilton's system is a layer cake of confusion. Students would rather forgo employment than navigate the complexities of the current system. The creation of the Student Employment Office (SEO) has been a positive, recent step. Established last semester, it works to fix the old system, which a representative from the SEO admits was "highly unfair and benefited only specific people." The work of the SEO is a great step, but more is possible.

Have an opinion?

Write for The Spectator!

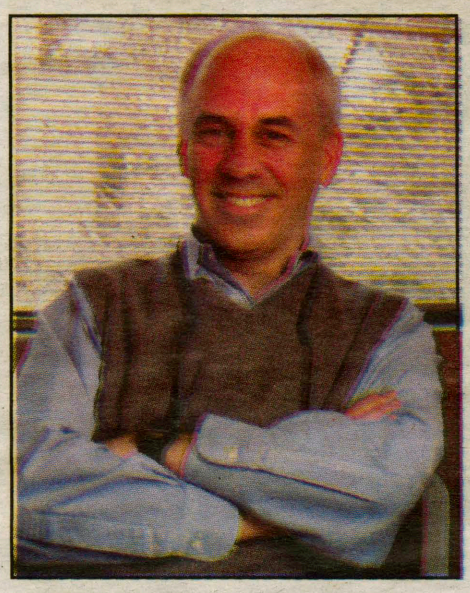
E-mail kmacartn & rlieb for more information.

by James Grebey '12
Staff Cartoonist



This would have been the funniest cartoon ever made, but the noise of the Carnegie generator drowned out the punchline.

Professor Profile: Dan Chambliss, Sociology



by Dan Chambliss
Eugene M. Tobin Distinguished Professor of Sociology

This is part of a series on what research our professors pursue outside of the classroom. It is intended to further Hamilton's understanding of the scientific and academic community we have on campus.

How did you get to where you are today?

I've wanted to be a teacher since I was about 13, when I realized I could do a better job—even at the time—than my high school history teacher (No brag, just fact). When I went to college (New College in Florida), I discovered sociology and found that it included everything I liked about psychology, philosophy and history, plus other goodies. You could study basically anything. I got a PhD at Yale and applied for lots of jobs. Hamilton was the only place that seemed to want me, and I knew I wanted to be at a small liberal arts place. I've been here for 30 years.

Why did you choose Hamilton?

I didn't, specifically. They chose me and told me I could teach whatever I wanted in any way I wanted. That was crucial.

What is your specialty in your field? What research question(s) are you currently interested in?

I study the social psychology of organizations, which basically means I try to figure out how people act in organizations—sports teams, hospitals and colleges are three cases I've looked at (roughly ten years each) and written books about. Typically, I just spend lots of time watching and talking with people in organizations, then try to write about what I see. I also have done a fair bit of business consulting, so I know about those kinds of settings as well.

Currently, I'm working with a former student on a book called *How College Works*, which tells how the good stuff in college comes about. Short answer: It's who you spend time with. People, not programs, are what matter. Spend time with the best possible people.

Why are you interested in these? What is their relevance to the field and to the world? Why you personally find them important?

I don't have much of an answer here. People spend their work lives in organizational settings, many of which are truly messed up, frustrating, ineffective and even damaging. I'd like them to be better. Meanwhile, I just find the work somewhat interesting. But in truth, I'm mainly a teacher, not a scholar.

What is unique about your teaching style or methods? Why should students take classes with you?

I doubt that anything I do is unique. You ask, "Why take my classes?" Ask a student, not me. I will say, though, whatever my strengths and weaknesses, I try to respect my students as thinkers and human beings. I take them seriously. Everything else—I hope—flows from that. Mainly I just like talking with young people about ideas and about their lives and interests.

What are your passions outside of academics?

Passion is a big word; let's just say I really enjoy reading, a lot. Do it all the time. I'm also lucky enough to be happily married with four great stepchildren and two (naturally) adorable grandchildren. I love a really good conversation. I've also been known, in younger days, to dance from 10 p.m. until 6 a.m.; that was a passion. I used to coach competitive swimming; that was a passion.

What is your favorite Hamilton College tradition?

At graduation, the faculty form a double rank through which the graduates process out. It's a high point of my year.

If you could go back in time to when you were in college and give yourself one piece of advice, what would it be?

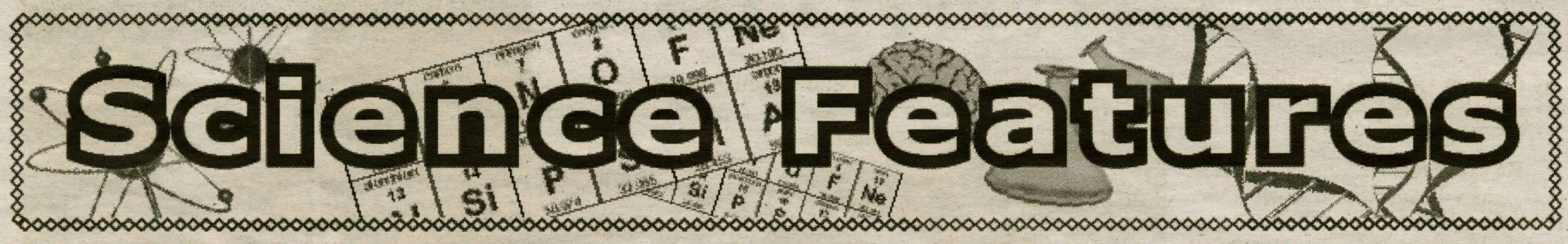
Perhaps: Be more open to love. I tended to be a bit picky, for silly reasons. But that's not what you meant, I suspect. So let's say, I'd just do exactly what I did: Found a wonderful mentor very early and worked with her for four years; had a dozen or so of the nicest, smartest friends you'd ever want, lived in a gorgeous locale and spent four years having serious fun—reading and talking about great books and ideas, trying out lots of things, caring about the community I was in, dancing all night (see above) and living joyfully. I wouldn't trade it for anything.

Which class is your favorite to teach right now?

Self in Society. For 34 years now (I first tried it at my own undergraduate college), students have told me it changed their lives—in a good way. Teaching is a deployment of personality—an expression of who one is—and that course is me.

What class would you most want to teach if you got the chance?

"If I had the chance?" When I was offered the job at Hamilton, the department chair asked me "what do you want?" I said I wanted to teach whatever I wanted, any way that I wanted. He gave me that. I've had the chance, plenty of times. I pretty much teach what I like to teach. I've been incredibly lucky: students who want to learn, colleagues who care about what we're doing. Wow.



Red, white and rose: What you need to know to understand wine

by Julia Litzky '12
Science and Technology Editor

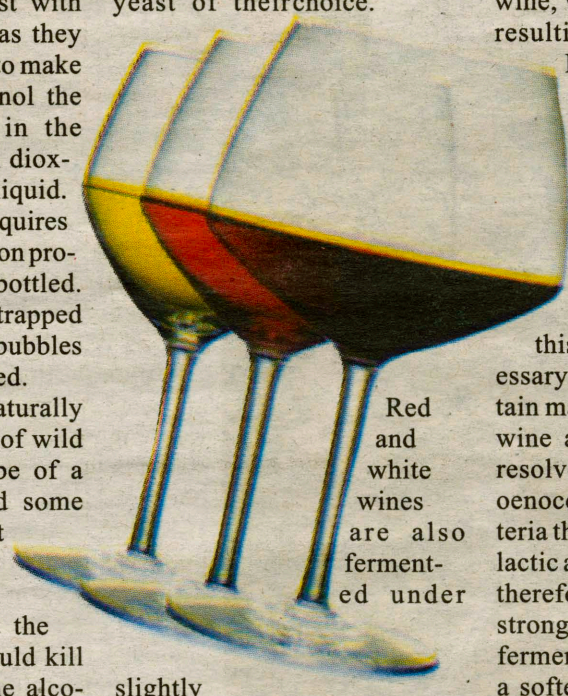
On Monday and Wednesday, students gathered in the pub to sample a variety of wines as part of the FebFest's wine tasting. Wines vary in sweetness, color and dryness. All of these factors combine to determine the quality of the wine and which wines people prefer. So how do vintners create such a variety of wines?

The primary difference in the taste and quality of wine is in the quality of the grapes. Grapes are ideal for wine-making because they ferment naturally without rotting. Although all fruits ferment, most need yeast or sugars added during the process in order prevent spoiling. Wild yeast—the fungi responsible for fermentation—lives in the air in vineyards and can be found around the grape stems. This yeast feeds on grape juice and uses the energy contained in the sugars in the juice to survive and reproduce, creating ethanol and carbon dioxide in the process.

Grapes can vary based on their acidity, sugar content and the amount of tannin they contain; all of these factors affect the final taste of the wine. Tannin, which is in the grape skins, helps wines to age well, but too much tannin makes wine bitter and astringent (meaning that it will give the drinker dry-mouth). Red wines tend to have more tannin than white. This is not, however, because different grapes are used for red wines. Most grape juice is clear, and so the difference between red and white wine is actually the length of time the juice, called the must in the wine-making process, is left in contact with the grape skins: the longer the contact, the redder the wine, and also the greater the amount of tannin in the wine. Some rose wines are made by allowing the must to briefly be in contact with the peels, although others are made by mixing white and red wines.

Vintners make red wines by fermenting the must with the grape skins, whereas they ferment the must alone to make white wines. The ethanol the yeast produce stays in the juice, while the carbon dioxide vaporizes out of the liquid. Champagne therefore requires an additional fermentation process after the wine is bottled. The carbon dioxide is trapped in the wine, resulting in bubbles once the bottle is opened.

Although grapes naturally contain small amounts of wild yeast, this yeast can be of a variety of strains, and some strains of yeast cannot survive in liquids with a high alcohol content. This would mean that the fermenting process would kill off the yeast before the alcohol content in the wine was high enough. As a result, vintners usually add sulfur to the must, which kills off the wild yeast, and then add controlled amounts of a single strain of yeast of their choice.



Red and white wines are also fermented under slightly different conditions. White wine takes two to 45 days to ferment, and is kept at a temperature between 45 and 65 degrees Fahrenheit. The temperature controls the taste of the wine, with lower temperatures resulting in fruitier flavors. Red wine is fermented at a much higher temperature, between 70 and 80 degrees Fahrenheit, but only takes two to five days to ferment.

The next step in making wine is the secondary fermentation, although this step is not always necessary. Grapes naturally contain malic acid, which can give wine a hard, strong taste. To resolve this, wine-makers add oenococcus oeni, a type of bacteria that converts malic acid to lactic acid, which is weaker and therefore doesn't create such a strong taste. This secondary fermentation process results in a softer, mellower taste and a creamier texture.

the Vagina ({*}) Monologues

PHOTO BY LAUREN PETERS-COLLAER '11

Katherine Costa '12 performs "Hair."

by Olusade Oyalowo '14
Features Contributor

It's official: Hamilton College loves vaginas. On Monday night at 7 p.m., the events barn was overflowing with students waiting to see the anticipated event of the night: "The Vagina Monologues." At one point the Womyn's Center, which put on the production, ran out of tickets, forcing students to sit on the stairs.

"The Vagina Monologues," written by Eve Ensler, consists of monologues meant to be read by different women discussing topics relating to the vagina such as sex, love, rape, menstruation, mutilation, masturbation, birth, orgasm and the variety of names for the vagina. Directed by Ilse Zoerb '11 and Jennifer Hightower '12, a cast of Hamilton women performed the monologues, dressed in black and donning pink feather boas.

"The Vagina Monologues" serves as a fundraising opportunity for the V-Day movement, which takes place every year worldwide between Feb. 1 and April 30. According to v-day.org, it is "a global activist movement to stop violence against women and girls." Participants of this movement stage benefit performances of the show and host other related events in their communities. The performances generally benefit rape crisis centers and similar resource centers for women who are victims of battery, incest and female genital mutilation.

PHOTO BY FIONA HOFFMAN-HARLAND '13

Caty Taborda '11 performs "My Angry Vagina."

Crowd and cast favorites include "My Angry Vagina," in which two students ranted about the injustices wrought against the vagina, such as tampons; "The Woman Who Loved to Make Vaginas Happy," which started out as a woman discussing her love of giving women pleasure but later turned into a vocal demonstration of female orgasms; and "Reclaiming Cunt," which involved a narrative stripping the word "cunt" of its derogatory status.

Although many students found some of the monologues hilarious, actors emphasized the seriousness of them as well "'The Vagina Monologues' is kind of an ode to women. It touched on a lot funny and not so funny topics... It's an appreciation that women shouldn't feel ashamed of having a vagina," said Morolake Thompson '14, a performer in the show.

Lauren Lanzotti '14, another performer, agreed. "The Vagina Monologues has a unique message that discusses taboo topics that should be talked about more openly."

The taboo topics featured in the show serve not to shock or alienate the audience, but instead to encourage audience members to feel comfortable a holding dialogue about the less-discussed issues of women's health. Individual pieces in "The Vagina Monologues" encouraged women to understand, talk about and experience the anatomy of their vaginas in alternating serious and comical tones. Cynthia Batista '14 gushed, "I loved it! It was funny, sad, and insightful."

"The Vagina Monologues" were often graphic, but most uncomfortable students came around by the end of the show. Josh Yates '14 said, "There were certain [monologues] that made me cringe but others made me laugh hysterically."

At the end of the show, the cast awarded the coveted Vagina Warrior award to Megan Bolger '11 for her work in promoting Safe Zone spots around campus. As the lights went up, both men and women alike in the audience had a little more reverence for that "dirty" little word, "vagina."

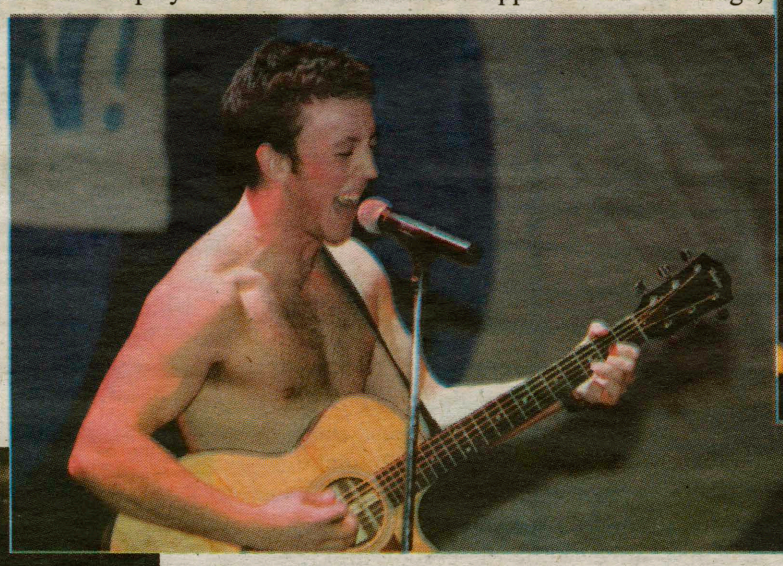
MR. Hamilton

by Olusade Oyalowo '14
Features Contributor

He's talented. He's attractive. He's every girl's dream come true. He's Mr. Hamilton.

On Wednesday, Feb. 15, Michael Bethoney '11 acquired the crown at the third annual Mr. Hamilton competition sponsored by One Heart With Africa.

The night began with a performance by the dance team, which students raved was the highlight of the night. The next portion of the show was the swimwear; the ladies (and men) went wild when Hamilton's finest strutted their stuff in boxers and swimming attire. For the talent portion, numerous contestants performed a lip synch/dance combination to popular songs such as Justin Bieber's "Baby" and Taylor Swift's "You Belong With Me."



Runner-up Alex Thompson '13 plays guitar.

PHOTOS BY SUMAN SARKER '11

Dana Quigley '11 introduces his talent act

Michael Bethoney '11 dances at the contest.

Although the crowd appeared entertained and was singing along, some students were not won over. Victoria Harbour '14 states, "I'm not that impressed [with the performances]; you could tell who put effort into it and who didn't." Other performances included rapping, saxophone and guitar playing.

But when Bethoney appeared on the stage, the crowd (especially the girls) went crazy. What started out as an amazing and organized hip-hop dance number ended up in near-nudity. When asked about his grand finale he said, "I think in general everyone enjoys a little public nudity."

After the talent portion, the step team followed up with a performance, which was a huge crowd pleaser. Then the formalwear/question and answer portion proceeded. Before the winner was announced, HEAT performed a dance routine as well. After much anticipation, Bethoney was crowned Mr. Hamilton with Alex Thompson '13 as runner up.

All the money that was raised from t-shirt sales and donations will be given to the campus organization. Once One Heart with Africa achieves its goal of raising $5,000, they will send the money to the non-profit organization Charity:Water to buy a well in Africa and name it for Hamilton College. Charity:Water serves to bring clean and safe drinking water to people in developing nations.

The cause attracted students to participate in and attend Mr. Hamilton. Knute Gailor '13 said, "It was for a good cause so I decided to participate."

Bethoney said, "There are too may social injustices on our campus, our country and the entire world, but tonight was all about raising money for a great cause and having a good time doing it."

Chocolate: Going Beyond Hershey's

by Emily Gerston '11
Features Editor

Most people know that there are many different variations of wines and cheeses, but fewer people know that the same differences exist in chocolate. Christian A. Johnson Excellence in Teaching Professor of Biology Ernest Williams led a discussion on the chemical makeup of chocolate to help students understand chocolate's complexities.

As Williams explained, chocolate as we know it is derived by drying, cracking and roasting cacao tree seeds, then separating it into cocoa solids and cocoa fat (which determines the "percentage" of the chocolate, or how dark the chocolate is).

"I think it's a great idea," said Lou Vilardo '11 about the chocolate tasting. "I'm a science person, so I like that there's a scientific approach to chocolate."

PHOTO BY FIONA HOFFMAN-HARLAND '13

PHOTO BY EMILY GERSTON '11

Battle of the Pizzas

by Emily Gerston '11
Features Editor

Pizza is a staple element in any college student's diet, particularly when living in Upstate New York, where pizzerias abound. Hamilton Alumni Leadership Training (HALT), made up of members of the Class of 2011, took advantage of this fact when they hosted Pizza Wars as a part of FebFest.

In a blind taste test of pizzas from seven local pizza parlors, Hamilton students voted Pizza Place their favorite pizzeria, according to HALT Co-chair Alex Dotson '11. "We are fortunate to live in an area where there are so many great pizza places; what better way than this to see which one Hamilton students think is the best!" she said. "It is a good way for more people to get to know who and what HALT is and for everyone to have a good time eating pizza."

Making the ice nice

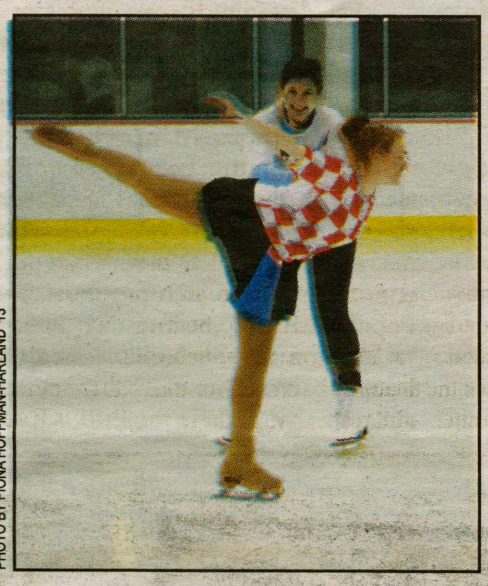


PHOTO BY FIONA HOFFMAN-HARLAND '13

by Claire Carusillo '13
Features Editor

"I think I stole the show," Helen Higgins '13 joked, alluding to her amateur ice-skating performance to Shakira's "Waka Waka," sandwiched between more professional routines at the FebFest-hosted Figure Skating Exhibition at Sage Rink on Tuesday Feb. 15. Higgins, performing for the first time and accompanied by Alex Orlov '13 of the Hamilton College Figure Skating Club, may not have been the most experienced skater on the ice thay night, but her lightheartedness was representative of the tone of the exhibition.

Skaters from Hamilton, Colgate and Clinton-area skate clubs showed off their skills on skates in a night of triple axles, leotards, pop music and hot chocolate. The crowd was sparse, but the enthusiasm of the fans made Sage rink roar, most notably during younger skaters' routines and HAMGATE synchronized skating team's group performance.

An open skate with free skate rentals followed the performance. Dominique Paiement '12, a spectator and free skater said, "The exhibition had a fun, sort of DIY vibe to it. You could tell all of the skaters were there because they enjoyed it, not because they were looking for praise or a big audience."

Midnight Snack

by Claire Carusillo '13
Features Editor

Those who managed to pull themselves away from their textbooks or lolcat videos to attend the Late Night Breakfast at Commons were rewarded with short lines and an abundance of breakfast food prepared by Bon Appétit. "Commons was less crowded than it is at breakfast, so I got as many pancakes as I wanted and a lot of whipped cream and fruit," said Michelle Milne '14. "It was a beautiful situation. I was completely uninhibited."

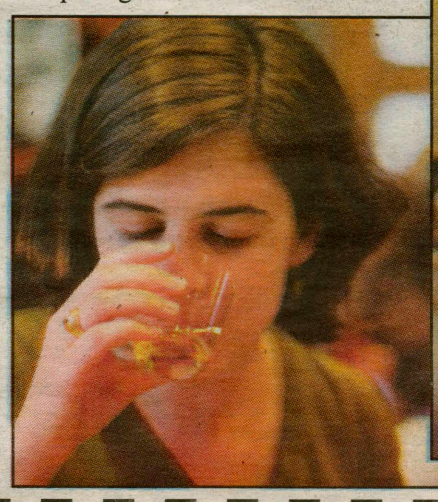
Wine and cheese

by Emily Gerston '11
Features Editor

"This is something I've been looking forward to for four years," said Andrew Epstein '11. He was talking, of course, about the FebFest wine tasting (which is obviously only open to those ages 21 and up). Wednesday's event drew a crowd of more than 30, many of them waitlisted attendees hoping to get in.

Associate Professor of English Steve Yao led a discussion of two different chardonnays and cabernets. He recommended food pairings and advised students on how to further their wine educations. "Learning about the world of wine is like Dungeons and Dragons for adults," said Yao.

Said Kristiana Hubley '11, "I liked that they varied things so we could experience different wines, something perfumy or oaky or dry."

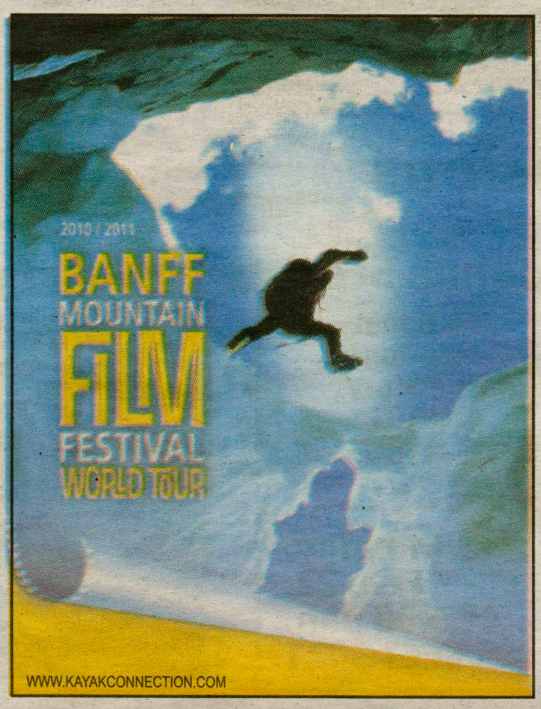


PHOTOS BY CATIE FERRARA '11

Banff is BAMF

by Claire Carusillo '13
Features Editor

In upstate New York, we brave the cold. We brave the snow. We brave the ice. But after watching the outdoor/adventure films in the Banff Mountain Film Festival's World Tour stop at Hamilton, even the hardiest Adirondack Adventurers seem like children. Whether it was a pair of best friends kayaking from Australia to New Zealand or a German man walking solo across China, the humanity featured in the seven films made viewers in the KJ auditorium laugh, scream, clench our jaws, grind our teeth, cover our eyes, intake our breath sharply and remind us that winter will soon end.



WHCL
The Higher Authority:
Sunday, 5-6 p.m.

Eamon Anderson
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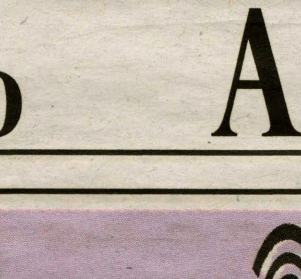
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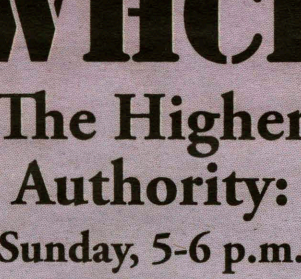
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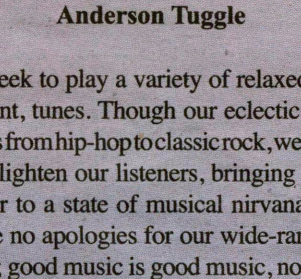
TV On the Radio -
Return to Cookie Mountain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WHCL WEEKLY CHART

1. The Decemberists - *The King Is Dead*
2. Arcade Fire - *The Suburbs*
3. Florence and the Machine - *Lungs*
4. Mogwai - *Hardcore Will Never Die, But You Will*
5. Royksopp - *Senior*
6. Tennis - *Cape Dory*
7. The Go! Team - *Rolling Blackouts*

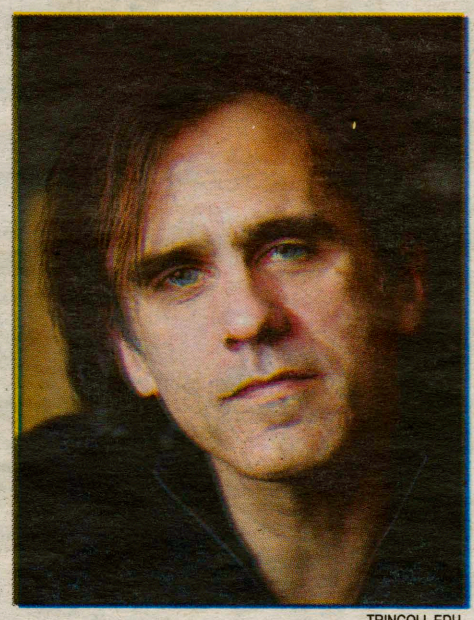
The College invites Rochester professors to discuss their craft

by Elaheh Nozari '13
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT CONTRIBUTOR

The housekeeper of a taxidermist's gloomy estate, Peg Griswood, is the central character of Joanna Scott's lauded novel *The Manikin*. This story of conflicting characters living in the same space earned Scott a nomination for the 1997 Pulitzer Prize in Fiction, in addition to other accolades.

Scott, a professor of English at Syracuse University, will join her fellow Syracuse professor James Longenbach on Monday, Feb. 21 and Tuesday, Feb. 22 as Hamilton's 2011 Writers-in-Residence. Scott specializes in fiction writing and modern and contemporary literature and Longenbach teaches courses in modern and contemporary American poetry and Shakespeare, among other themes. The writers will lecture on their crafts and read from their work as part of this year's Writers-in-Residence series.

Scott is the author of eight novels and two short story collections. According to *The New York Times Book Review*, Scott's most recent novel, *Follow Me*, represents a mélange of literary genres—"historical novel, oral history, magical realism, bildungsroman, epic and soap." Scott's novel sends readers into an escapist dream, the perfect antidote to the February doldrums that have infiltrated central New York.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"To write one poem, you have to read a thousand of them," noted James Longenbach in an interview with the Rochester Review.

Straying from contemporary fiction, Scott's colleague, James Longenbach, has published four books of poetry and several books of criticism. According to his Syracuse faculty biography, his most recent collection of poems, *The Iron Key* is a "meditation on the conditions and consequences of beauty," and his most recent critical work, *The Art of the Poetic Line* "is an account of the work of lineation in free-verse, syllabic and metered poetry." Longenbach's works do not solely demonstrate his poeticism and force readers to existentially contemplate the meaning of life; rather, his poems reflect his skills as a critical storyteller who compels readers to appreciate their past, present and future.

Both Longenbach and Scott have earned a variety of awards and praise. Longenbach holds a Guggenheim Fellowship and a Nation/Discovery Award. His poems have reached the literary elite with publications in *The Nation*, *The New Republic*, *The New Yorker* and *The Paris Review*. Scott has also been the recipient of a Guggenheim Award, as well as a MacArthur Fellowship and a Lannan Award.

The different literary styles of the two writers in residence will hopefully attract a range of students to their lectures and readings next week. Scott will reveal her experiences with fiction and the inspiration behind her works in a lecture titled "Fictional Deceptions: A True Story," while Longenbachwill discuss the connection between poetry and music in his lecture, "Poetry and Popular Music" on Tuesday, Feb. 22. In addition to their lectures, Scott and Longenbach will read from their works at 8 p.m. that night in the Fillius Events Barn.

A&E weekly schedule

SK Films

BANKSY: THROUGH THE GIFT SHOP

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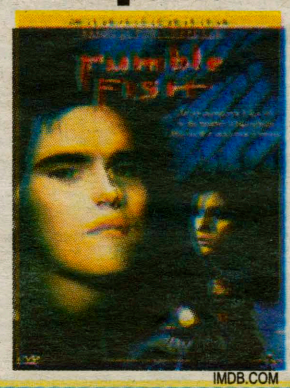
THURSDAY FEB. 17 — 7 P.M. KJ AUD

Early Movie:
Rumble Fish
7 p.m.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Feb. 18
Feb. 19
Feb. 20

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Late Movie:
The Machinist
10 p.m.

Craft Discussions

Tuesday, Feb. 22

James Longenbach
"Poetry and Popular Music"
KJ 109

Joanna Scott
"Fictional Deceptions: A True Story"
KJ 102

Discussion with Students:
Monday, Feb. 22, 4 - 5:30 p.m.
SCCT 3021

Visiting Writers — Feb. 21 - Feb. 22

Readings by Joanna Scott and James Longenbach

ROCHESTER.EDU

Tuesday
Feb. 22
Fillius
Events Barn
8 - 10 p.m.

Controversial art film coming to Hamilton

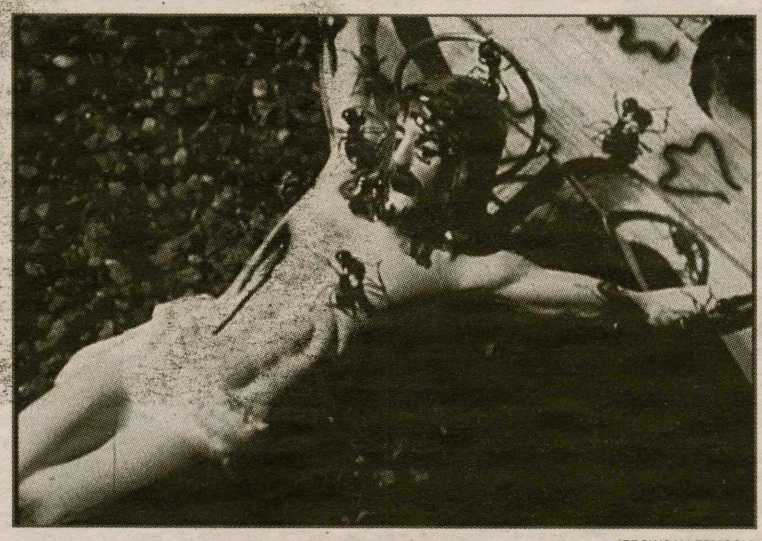
by Hannah Grace O'Connell '14
Arts & Entertainment Editor

The image is only on screen briefly, embedded in the midst of a choppy, surreal and often grotesque silent film. Yet a quick shot of a crucifix crawling with ants has proved a powerful enough picture to incite nationwide controversy, protests and a renewal of the debate on art and censorship.

The provocative scene is from a 20 minute film, *A Fire in My Belly*. The film was created by the late artist David Wojnarowicz in 1986-1987 as a reaction to the AIDS epidemic, but Wojnarowicz died of AIDS complications in 1992 before he could finish the work. A severely cut version of the film was shown as part of a Smithsonian Portrait Gallery exhibit that dealt with sexuality, called "Hide/Seek: Difference and Desire in American Portraiture." This past December, it incited bitter antagonism from religious and political groups.

The loudest voice of complaint came from conservative members in the House of Representatives, most notably Speaker of the House John Boehner and Representative Eric Cantor (VA). Cantor's representative was quoted saying that the film and the exhibit were "an outrageous use of taxpayer money and an obvious attempt to offend Christians during the Christmas season." Besides the political right, many religious groups such as the Catholic League found the crucifix a blasphemous assault to Christianity and an unacceptable use of taxpayers' money.

After the controversy reached national proportions, the Smithsonian Institution chose to remove the film from its exhibit. They cited that their decision was based on the concern that the debate was detracting from the rest of the exhibit and, in a news release, stated that, "As a publicly supported museum, the Smithsonian... needs to be responsive to a large and diverse audience."



PPOWGALLERY.COM

Ants crawl over a crucifix in the most controversial scene from the unfinished film *A Fire in My Belly*.

Response to this decision was equally controversial in the art community. The Andy Warhol Foundation, a sponsor of "Hide/Seek," withdrew funding until *A Fire in My Belly* was restored. Art galleries across the country began to show the film, and the Association of Art Museum Directors decried the Smithsonian's decision to give into censorship pressures.

A Fire in My Belly was by no means overtly visible in the "Hide/Seek" exhibit. The segment shown was only four minutes long and could only be accessed on a small touchscreen. Furthermore, it is clear that people formed hasty judgements without understanding the film or its artistic context. *A Fire in My Belly*, according to the Smithsonian, was intended by Wojnarowicz to express "the suffering, marginalization and physical decay of those who were afflicted with AIDS," and the sometimes disturbing religious imagery serves to place the film "firmly in the tradition of art that uses such imagery to universalize human suffering." Given Wojnarowicz's Catholic school upbringing, it is easy to interpret the ants as traditional religious symbols of Christian diligence or, as *The LA Weekly* put it, "carpenters (the spiritual brethren of Jesus)."

This is not the first time artwork has sparked such religious controversy. Notable examples from the past include the "Sensation" exhibit at the Brooklyn Museum (featuring a portrait of the Virgin Mary with a clod of elephant dung) and the "Piss Christ" photograph, which generated debate because it was funded in part by the National Endowment of the Arts. Both cases were met with protests, controversy and even violence. The Brooklyn Museum kept the painting behind a Plexiglass screen, and the museum lost funding from New York City. The Australian gallery displaying "Piss Christ" removed the photograph after continued violence and vandalism.

While the controversy surrounding *A Fire in My Belly* is incredibly frustrating to many, at the very least this debate shows that art is once again being taken seriously. Wojnarowicz's film is being watched and discussed by people who never would have been exposed to his work. Hopefully, this will encourage those forming snap judgements to step back and grasp the meaning behind the art before moving towards a taxpayers' censorship.

Hamilton College is showing *A Fire in My Belly* on Wednesday, Feb. 23 at 5 p.m. in KJ 127 (Red Pit). The screening is followed by a panel discussion which will include professors from a variety of departments, joined by Wendy Osloff, a New York City gallery owner who was Wojnarowicz's gallery dealer. The panel will discuss the many issues raised by the film and attempt to place it in an artistic and historical context, from religious symbolism and avant garde film to the 1980s art scene.

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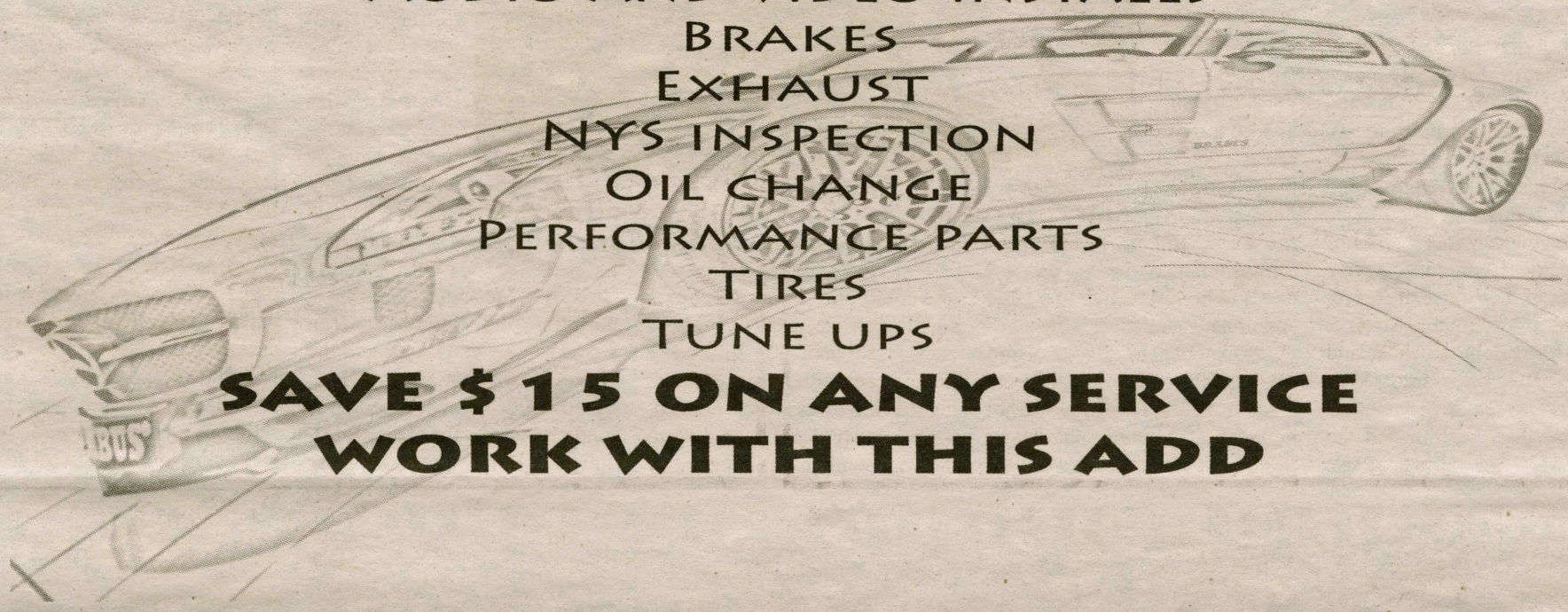

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PHOTO BY FIONA HOFFMAN-HARLAND '13

Continentals concentrate on bouncing back to end a tough season with a win

from ***Basketball****, page 16*

The next day the women travelled to Union, to whom they had lost a nail-biting double overtime game in January. Unfortunately, the game was not quite so close this time. "I believe Union looked much stronger the second time around and they were clicking on all cylinders," said Coach Patterson.

Like Skidmore, the women found themselves down by a considerable margin in the first half. Unable to overcome the deficit, the Continentals lost 64-46. The story was the same against William Smith a few days later, to whom the women lost 67-53.

Things didn't get any easier for the Continentals, as sickness and injury plagued the team throughout last weekend's games against St. Lawrence and Clarkson. Blue Sanders '13 and Dani Feign '14 both suffered injuries, making the already small eight-woman team even smaller. "It was a challenge to even compete," said Coach Patterson.

Consequently, the Continentals struggled against St. Lawrence on Friday. "We just didn't come out well at the beginning of the game, which really hurt us later," remarked forward Claire Hunsinger '13.

Indeed, the women were down 20 points at halftime. However, the Continentals weren't about to lie down after a bad start. "We actually outscored them in the second half," remarked Hunsinger. Because the team eventually managed to rally so well, Hunsinger felt that "we definitely could have beat them." As it stands, however, the Continentals lost 55-41.

Though many teams would let this string of losses affect their mentality, the Continentals demonstrated an uncanny ability to bounce back last Saturday with a victory over Clarkson. Hunsinger reported that they "out-rebounded and outworked [Clarkson] on the boards all night, which is really important." She also credited a stellar performance by forward Lisa Olszewski '11, "Lisa had a monster game for us too, which is great because an inside game is not only effective on its own, but also opens up your outside game, as the defense is forced to collapse to guard the post." Indeed, Olszewski scored 16 of Hamilton's 52 points.

Now, the women hope to carry this momentum into their games against Vassar and RPI this weekend."We definitely want our season to end on a high note, and we do owe RPI and Vassar for the last time we played them," said Hunsinger.

Coach Patterson is also expecting a strong finish to the season. "We look forward to staying healthy and competing at full strength," she said. If the Continentals can play against RPI and Vassar how they played against Clarkson, they may well have the strong finish they are looking for.

Schwinn, seniors succeed at league championships

by Caitlin O'Connor '14
Sports Editor

Muriel Schwinn '13 stole the spotlight last Saturday at the 2011 Liberty League indoor track and field championships at Hamilton's Margaret Bundy Scott Field House. Hamilton finished third behind rivals St. Lawrence and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Schwinn was runner-up in her three individual events and sprinted the first leg of the 4x200 relay, which resulted in a close second place finish, earning 32 points of Hamilton's overall total of 71. She lagged only two hundredths of a second behind the winner of the 55-meter dash. With her incredible showing, Schwinn earned all-league honors, bestowed upon the top two finishers of individual events as well as each member of the winning relays.

Hamilton's distance relay team started the meet off on an exciting note. Although the Continentals had the lead for the first three legs, they were surpassed by the meet winner St. Lawrence in the final seconds. Abby King '11, Sarah Ohanesian '14, Anna Heywood '13 and Erin West '14 all contributed to a time of 13:11.72.

Exciting relays like this one truly demonstrate strong sense of community found within the female track team. According to first-year Kristy Oren '14, "Every girl really gave it her all out there, not only competing, but also cheering. Everyone was very supportive, and I think that helped a lot."

The senior members of the Continentals also had strong performances, notably Maddy Gunter, Meredith FitzPatrick and Brooke Rayder. Gunter and FitzPatrick specialize in the long-distance events, claiming third and fourth place respectively. Gunter finished the mile in 5:26.42, while FitzPatrick ran the 5000-meter run, approximately 3 miles, in 19:17.44. Rayder excelled both on the track and on the mat. She earned fifth place in the 55-meter hurdles with a 9:48, while tying for fourth in the high jump by clearing a height of 1.43 meters.

Although it was their first time competing in the Liberty League Championships, first-years Clare O'Grady and Molly Brooks handled the pressure admirably. O'Grady managed to score for the team with a sixth place finish in the 400-meter dash, while Brooks threw for 12.45 meters in the 20-pound weight throw on her first attempt.

When asked about the current state of the team and what she expects in the coming weeks, Schwinn commented, "Many of my teammates had awesome performances this past weekend, and I know that there will continue to be more improvements in the future. We have a hard working team, a great vibe and a lot of cohesiveness that will bring us to the next level in upcoming meets. Get excited."

Members of the Hamilton women's indoor track and field team will travel to Cornell this Saturday, Feb. 19 for an invitational.

PHOTO BY CLARENCE GREBEY III

Meredith FitzPatrick '11.

Men's hockey takes over first place in NESCAC

by Dave Meisel '13
Sports Editor

With an in-conference record of 9-4-4 following two 4-3 wins on Feb. 11 and Feb. 12, the Hamilton men's hockey team has taken the top spot in the NESCAC rankings. The men are poised to seize the top seed in the tournament, which will demand wins against University of Massachusetts-Boston and Babson in their final two games.

Hamilton can also grab the first seed through a variety of scenarios if the teams below them (Middlebury, Williams and Amherst) lose games, but they don't need the help. Indeed, every team's wish in the stretch run of a season is to control their own fate.

After falling behind 2-1 against St. Anselm on Feb. 11, goals from Nick Anderson '14 and Phil DiDonato '13 put the Continentals ahead 3-2. St. Anselm tied the score on an unassisted goal just over five minutes into the third period.

Things seemed bleak late in the third period when Joe Houk '13 took a two-minute minor for cross-checking, but Anthony Ruberto '13 netted a clutch shorthanded goal with just 2:57 remaining, and the Continentals held on for the win.

The following day, the Continentals trumped New England College by the same score. Goals from Ruberto, Houk and Drew Jelinek '13 gave the Continentals a 3-1 lead in the first period. New England could never quite come back. After a second-period goal, Hamilton responded with a goal by Anthony Scarpino '12 to make it 4-2. New England scored again in the middle of the third period, but again, the Continentals locked down late in the game for a win.

Such clutch wins have been a trademark of the Continentals' 2010-2011 season. Even more impressive is their current run– they haven't lost in almost a month and have just two losses in the year 2011. Their record in this year is 7-2-4, and their overall record stands at 12-6-4.

While Hamilton's success has been a result of a great team effort, three Continentals have excelled on an individual level – Joe Houk is fourth in the NESCAC with 28 points, and second in the conference in goals (16). Michael DiMare '14 is ninth in the conference in points with 22 (11 goals, 11 assists) and Joe Buicko, senior captain and the heart and soul of Hamilton's team, is tied for 15th in points with 20. His 15 assists are fourth-highest in the NESCAC.

Their final two games come on the road against UMass Boston and Babson this Friday, Feb. 18 and Saturday, Feb. 19.

PHOTO BY FIONA HOFFMAN-HARLAND '13

The team hopes to gain the top seed for the playoffs.

HAMILTON SPORTS

SCOREBOARD

Feb. 10 - Feb. 17

Men's Basketball
Feb. 11 - 60-53 **WIN** @ St. Lawrence
Feb. 12 - 79-50 **WIN** @ Clarkson
Feb. 14 - 56-69 **LOSS** @ Middlebury

Women's Basketball
Feb. 11 - 41-55 **LOSS** @ St. Lawrence
Feb. 12 - 52-44 **WIN** @ Clarkson
Feb. 15 - 53-67 **LOSS** @ Middlebury

Men's Squash
Feb. 12 - 2-7 **LOSS** vs. George Washington
Feb. 12 - 5-4 **WIN** vs. Univ. of Toronto
Feb. 13 - 8-1 **WIN** vs. Northeastern

Men's Hockey
Feb. 11 - 4-3 **WIN** vs. St. Anselm
Feb. 12 - 4-3 **WIN** vs. New England College

Women's Hockey
Feb. 11 - 3-4 **LOSS** vs. Conn. College
Feb. 12 - 1-4 **LOSS** vs. Conn. College

Women's Squash
Feb. 12 - 3-6 **LOSS** vs. George Washington
Feb. 12 - 9-0 **WIN** vs. Middlebury
Feb. 13 - 8-0 **WIN** vs. Wesleyan

Men's and Women's Indoor Track and Field
Feb. 12 - 3rd Place

SCHEDULE

Feb. 18 - Feb. 24

Men's Basketball
Feb. 11 @ St. Lawrence [8 p.m.]
Feb. 12 @ Clarkson [4 p.m.]

Women's Basketball
Feb. 11 @ St. Lawrence [6 p.m.]
Feb. 12 @ Clarkson [2 p.m.]
Feb. 15 @ Middlebury [6 p.m.]

Men's Hockey
Feb. 18 @ Univ. of Massachusetts - Boston [7 p.m.]
Feb. 19 @ Babson College [4 p.m.]

Women's Hockey
Feb. 18 vs. Trinity [7 p.m.]
Feb. 19 vs. Wesleyan [3 p.m.]

Women's Swimming and Diving
Feb.18-20 - NESCAC Championships @ Williams

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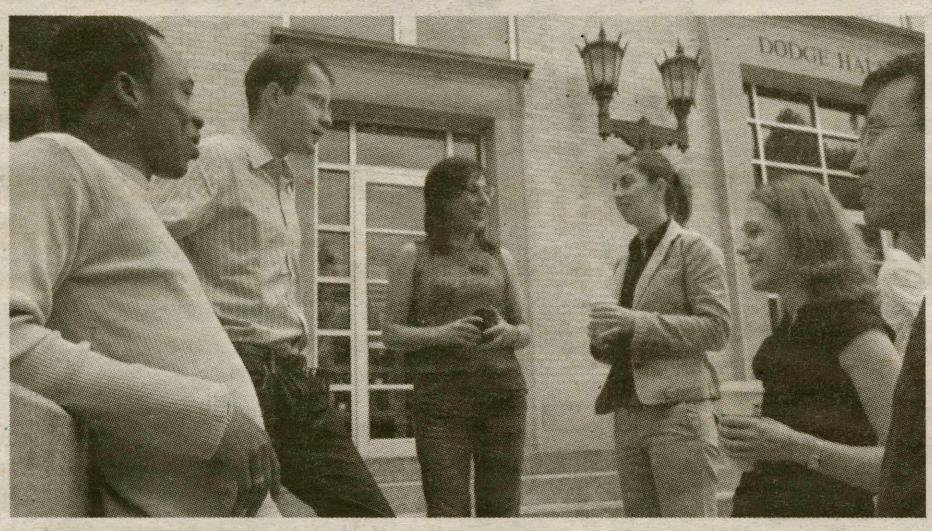

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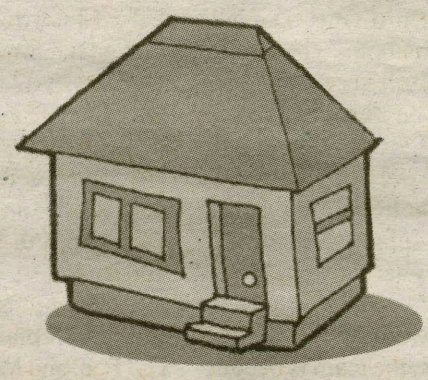

H SPECTATOR SPORTS
February 17, 2011

Continentals hope to earn playoff berth

by Kendall Weir '12
Sports Writer

The young Hamilton men's basketball team bounced back from a close loss to Liberty League rival Hobart with two road wins last weekend.

After leading at the half, Hamilton fell 70-67 in a tight game against league-leader Hobart College last week to fall to a record of 12-7. Captain Pat Sullivan '12 nearly posted a double-double with 21 points and nine rebounds. Now with eight 20-point performances so far in the 2010-11 season, Sullivan is leading the Liberty League in scoring. Fellow captain Ephraim McDowell '12 scored 10 points and Max Shillalies '11 scored eight. Three of the six first-years on the roster stood out for the Continentals, as Ryan Wright dropped three 3-pointers, and Matt Dean and Greg Newton each posted four helpers.

Despite impressive efforts from both the starters and the bench, Matt Pebole '12 scored 30 points and logged seven boards for Hobart to lead his team to the win. Stefan Thompson '13 hit a 3-pointer with under a minute left to give the Statesmen a two-score lead and help seal the win, marking Hobart's 17th of the season and their second against the Continentals.

Hamilton learned from that loss. After being led at the half by St. Lawrence that Friday, McDowell led a second-half Continentals surge to help the men capture a 60-53 league win. Sullivan scored more than 20 points for the second game in a row, marking his eighth time this season. McDowell scored 17 points, all in the second half, including four field goals from beyond the arc. Wright and Dean performed yet again, and Ken Click '13 scored eight, two of which came on a layup with five minutes remaining to round out a 10-0 run by Hamilton.

"It is great having the freshmen playing so well, and they are really peaking at the right time" said Sullivan.

With momentum from a clutch win against St. Lawrence, Hamilton cruised past Clarkson University in another league game by a margin of 29.

"Last weekend was great for us as a team. We went up to SLU and Clarkson and got two quality wins," Sullivan remarked.

Greg Newton '14 shot 100 percent from the field to rack up 16 points off the bench. Sullivan added 14, Shillalies scored eight and Tom McInerny '14 and Hans Schulte '13 each posted eight points.

On the flip side, Clarkson scored the first points of the game and couldn't seem to do anything right after that. Clarkson made four of its first 24 attempts from the field, was losing by 23 at the half, and never staged enough of a second-half run to get back into the contest.

The road wins over St. Lawrence and Clarkson pushed Hamilton into a tie for third place in the Liberty League standings. Only four teams qualify for the Liberty League tournament, so the Continentals need to finish the regular season on a high note.

After being postponed twice already, the men's basketball team traveled to Middlebury on Monday to face the Panthers, the No.4 team in the country. Despite only losing by one at the half and another strong effort off the bench by Newton, who dropped 17, the Continentals fell to Middlebury 69-56. Middlebury has been extremely strong all year, as they have won five straight and hold a record of 21-1 for the season.

Due to strong performances in three league games, Sullivan and Newton both earned weekly Liberty League awards. Sullivan made Liberty League team of the week, averaging almost 19 points over the three contests. He leads all Liberty League players in scoring and ranks third in shooting percentage.

Newton earned co-rookie of the week recognition for the first time in his career. He averaged three assists per game during the week, and ranks third in the Liberty League in assists per game.

The Continentals have two of its most important games to finish up the regular season, with upcoming home contests against Vassar College and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute on Feb. 18 and 19. Hamilton hopes to win both games to break a tie for third in the Liberty League with Skidmore College and make the league tournament.

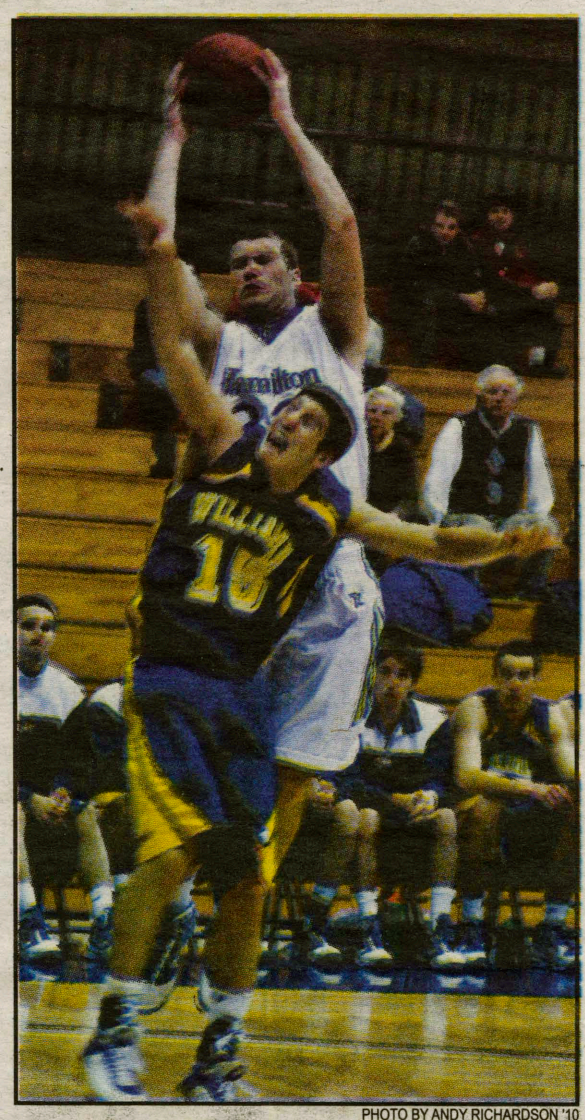

PHOTO BY ANDY RICHARDSON '10

Pat Sullivan '12 stays cool under pressure in a game vs. Williams last spring, a skill that Hamilton has relied on this season.

Seniors succeed at final home meet

Nationally-ranked squash teams compete in last regular season match

by Grace O'Connell '14
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Hamilton men's and women's squash teams had a successful home showing this past weekend, where both teams won two out of three matches in the Little Squash Center.

The women's team is now 11-9 overall for the season. While they lost the first match of Saturday, Feb. 12 to nationally ranked No. 16 George Washington University, they came back to beat University of Toronto 9-0 later in the day. The following day, Sunday, Feb. 13, the Continental women defeated Wesleyan 8-0.

Sunday was also Senior Day, celebrating class of 2011 players Anne Edelstein, Leila Clifford-Ong, Danielle Forsyth and Jane Hannon. The size of the team grew to 15 this season, and every member played an important role in group dynamics.

"Even though only the top nine matches count, the bottom of the ladder has been extremely supportive, our biggest cheerleaders at every match," Edelstein said.

As they head towards the Howe Cup team championships, the team is becoming even more determined to do their best. Already cohesive and supportive of one another, they plan on bringing all their energy and focus to the court.

"I'd really like for us to bring our inner squash diva to the courts in our matches over the next three weeks. Having a presence, and knowing you can work the ball, your opponent and the crowd, is uplifting and necessary for a winning mentality," Edelstein said.

The men's team had a similar victory over the weekend, leaving their season record at 7-13. The Continental men started out on Saturday, Feb. 12 by losing to 24th-ranked George Washington University 7-2. The team later stepped up their game to defeat University of Toronto 5-4, and improved their record further on Sunday when they beat 30th-ranked Northeastern University 8-1.

The men's team also celebrated its seniors, Captain James Hogan, Captain Hal Lee, and Mark Clark. Of note is Lee, who has had 42 wins with the squash program and has made fifth place on the program's career list.

From their victories this past weekend, the 24th-ranked Hamilton men progress to Harvard University on Friday, Feb. 25 for the 2011 CSA team championships.

PHOTO BY FIONA HOFFMAN-HARLAND '13

Mark Clark was one of the seniors honored.

Women's basketball attempts to finish their season strong

by Cooper Creagan '13
Sports Writer

Last Saturday, the Continentals stepped onto the court for a rematch against Clarkson with a score to settle. Clarkson had beaten Hamilton 48-42 at the Field House in January, and it was time for the women to return the favor. Indeed they did, gaining an early 4-3 lead and never losing it, finishing the game 52-44.

The victory against Clarkson, however, came only after a series of trying games for the Continentals. Earlier this month, the women travelled to Saratoga Springs for a rematch against Skidmore, to whom they had suffered a close two-point loss a few weeks prior. Their luck was no better this time around. "As for Skidmore, we started off a little slow," remarked Coach Melissia Patterson. Skidmore led by 11 points at halftime. Though Coach Patterson remarked that the team "finally rallied in the second half," it was ultimately not enough to take the victory, and Hamilton lost 56-50.

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